Chancellorsville and Gettysburg

By JOHN McELROY.

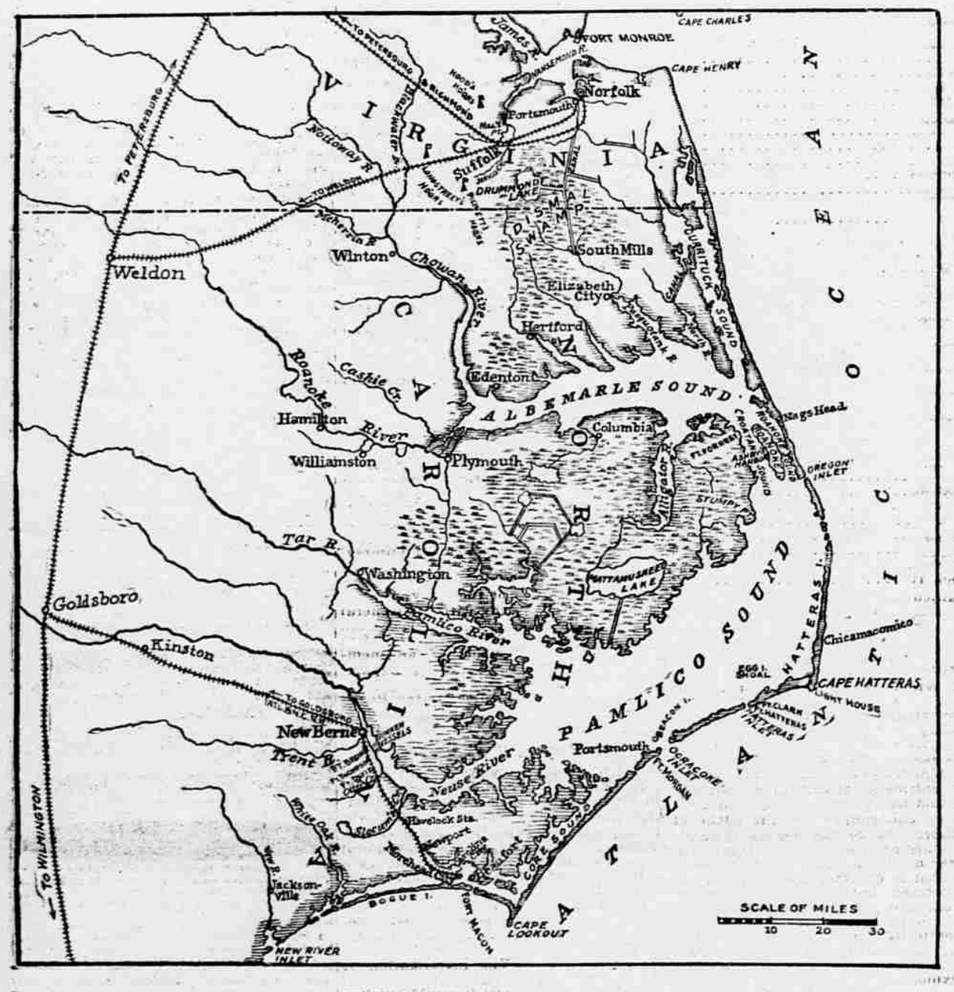
CHAPTER II.

THE SIEGE OF SUFFOLK.

Lee Feels Secure Enough in His Position to Detach Longstreet to Recover the Lower James—Gen. Peck's Brilliant Defense of Suffolk Against Overwhelming Forces—The Enemy Foiled at Every Point.

Redoubtable Fortifications.

While Gen. Hooker was doing such splendid work in reorganizing and reheartening his army, Gen. Lee was filling up his ranks with the recruits obtained by the relentless execution of the conscription law which forced into the Southern army every able-bodied man in the country. He was also keeping his men at hard work impregnably fortifying the position behind Fredericksburg. The Army of Northern Virginia were good workers under the stress of necessity, and the recent battle had shown the men the high value of defensive works. The fortifications thrown up excelled in magnitude and strength



SUFFOLK AND THE NORTH CAROLINA SOUNDS COUNTRY.

the celebrated lines of Torres Vedras, behind which Wellington with his small army defied the hosts that Napoleon sent against him under his ablest marshals. Along the crest of the hills from United States Ford, above Fredericksburg to Skenker's Neck, a distance of 25 miles, there was a continuous line of substantial infantry breastworks. The two points of this line were so well connected by good roads that the troops from any part could be rapidly concentrated upon the point attacked. Every available place for battery action was fortified with epaulements, from which cannon could sweep the hillsides and bottom lands as far as the river to break up any assaulting column that might form. These epaulements were a sufficient protection to the cannon from the return fire of our batteries. Before the entire length of the intrenchments stretched a heavy line of abatis except where there were swamps so impassable as to preclude attack. Still further in front of the main line every hillock and other elevation was fortified and approaches made to it so that a strong defence might be made before columns would be allowed to reach the impregnable main line. The same intrenchments clustered around all the probable and possible crossing places of the river. The main line of intrenchments ran along the crests of the hills, from three-fourths to one and one-half miles back from the river, but no part of the intervening ground that could be fortified was neglected, and the system of defense was as perfect as the highest engineering skill could make it.

While it was possible to cross the river as it had been done under the shelter of the tremendous artillery fire from the Falmouth side, yet nowhere could the columns hope to make progress enough to reach the main line before they were shattered by the combined artillery and musketry fire at close range. Lee and his subordinates fully realized the importance of Fredericksburg as the gateway to Richmond, and neglected nothing that would make their holding it more certain.

Lee Reorganizes His Army.

Gen. Lee reorganized his army too, and greatly improved its efficiency. He divided it into two grand divisions or corps, the first commanded by Lieut.-Gen. James Longstreet. Longstreet's First Division was commanded by Maj.-Gen. R. H. Anderson, with Brig.-Gens. Mahone, Posey, Wilcox, Perry and Wright commanding his brigades. Longstreet's Second Division was commanded by Maj.-Gen. Lafayette McLaws, with Brig.-Gens. Kershaw, Simms, Wofford and Barkesdale commanding his brigades. His other two divisions were sent off on special service of which I shall speak later. The Second Corps was commanded by Lieut.-Gen. Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson. Jackson's First Division, which was as strong as one of the Union corps, was commanded by Maj.-Gen. A. P. Hill, with Heth, Pender, Archer, McGowan, Lane and Thomas commanding his brigades. The Second Division was commanded by Maj.-Gen. D. H. Hill, with Brig.-Gens. Ramseur, Rodes, Doles, Iverson and Colquitt commanding the brigades. The Third Division was commanded by Brig.-Gen. R. E. Colston, with Paxton, Jones, Nicholls and Williams commanding brigades. The Fourth Division was under Maj.-Gen. Jubal A. Early, with Brig.-Gens. Gordon, Hays, Smith and Hoke commanding brigades. Almost all of these men were to rise to much prominence in subsequent operations. The cavalry formed a division under the command of Maj.-Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, with Fitzhugh Lee, Wade Hampton and W. H. F. Lee commanding his brigades.

The Confederates say that after detaching Longstreet's two divisions Lee still had 62,000 men, of whom 17,000 were in the two divisions of Longstreet which remained, 33,500 in Jackson's Corps, 2,700 in Stuart's Cavalry, 5,000 in the artillery and 4,000 on engineering and other duty.

The Suffolk Country.

Lee felt so confident of being able to hold his formidable works with only 62,000 men against the Union army, massing at Falmouth, that he detached Gen. Longstreet with two divisions to co-operate with the troops in southeastern Virginia and northern North Carolina to recover the country around Norfolk, which we had taken in the operations of the previous Spring. The position of Norfolk and the North Carolina Sounds country was a continual menace to the authorities at Richmond. It was possible at any time for us to land a great army at Norfolk, march up on the south side of the James, isolate Richmond from the rest of the Southern Confederacy, and possibly capture the Confederate Capital by a swift, determined blow. What added to the uneasiness of the Richmond authorities was that we still retained possession of Yorktown and Williamsburg, which made a line across to Norfolk and Suffolk, behind which an immense army could be debouched any day.

Suffolk itself was an insignificant village on the Nansemond River, and is only separted by a few miles of dry land from the vast morass so familiar in poetry and description, the Dismal Swamp. In the midst of the great bogs of this waste were the dark waters of Lake Drummond, which the Indians held to be accursed. The swamp connects with the great inland North Carolina sea known as Pamlico and Albemarle Sounds.

The importance of Suffolk in guarding all the roads leading thru this country was greatly enhanced by its being a railroad junction. The strategic importance of the place was immediately noted when Gen. Burnside made his success on Roanoke Island, and succeeded in getting control of its waters.

Gen. J. J. Peck, commanding a division of the Fourth Corps, was sent out to take command, established himself at Suffolk, and, being a skilful engineer, at once laid out and began the erection of a series of works to render his position more secure. This was in September, 1862, and tho the Confederates appreciated the importance of what he was doing they were so busily occupied elsewhere that they allowed him to remain uninterrupted until Jan. 18, 1863, when the extent and strength of his fortifications began to seriously alarm them. Gen. Roger Pryor was sent with a brigade to observe Peck, and if possible stop his operations and drive him off. Pryor took position on the Blackwater River, and Jan. 26 he advanced to a point called Kelley's Store, within eight or nine miles of Suffolk. Gen. Peck sent out Gen. Corcoran with a brigade to push him back. Our artillery speedily disposed of that of Pryor, but when our infantry advanced to the assault they found the enemy behind considerable works, from which they could not be dislodged. The Confederates saw, however, that they could not maintain themselves there against the 9,000 men that Peck had at Suffolk, and so retreated soon after the engagement was ended. Corcoran lost about 120 men killed and wounded, while the Confederates only acknowledged a loss of 15.

A Diversion Against Foster.

When Gen. Burnside withdrew his corps to go to the assistance of Gen. Pope, Gen. John G. Foster was left in command of the Roanoke country and the garrisons which had been established along the shores. These garrisons were strikingly insufficient in numbers, but it was calculated that with the help of the navy they would be able to maintain their position.

The navy on duty then in the Sounds consisted mainly of lightly-armed vessels improvised from merchant ships of light draft, such as could make their way about those shallow waters. A mistaken order came to Foster from Washington to take 12,000 of his best soldiers to reinforce Hunter in an expedition to capture Charleston. It seems Hunter was unaware of what was expected of him, and Foster's arrival was therefore a great surprise. Hunter took advantage of the temporary absence of Foster to seize the bigger part of his troops, break up the organizations and distribute the regiments thru his own command. A bitter quarrel between him and Foster resulted, but the latter could not recover his men, and had to go back to his post of duty with his strength greatly weakened.

The enemy was perfectly informed of all this, and part of the Richmond plan was for D. H. Hill and Pettigrew to gather up the North Carolina troops and overwhelm Foster in his weakened state. Hill made his first blow against Fort Anderson, which the Union troops were building on the Neuse in front of New Berne. Hill developed his attack with energy, but the small garrison was able to beat him off with the aid of the Hunchback and the Hetzel, two of the improvised gunboats

Suffolk formed a vast intrenched camp, consisting of redoubts and lunets connected by a continuous belt of about 10 miles in length. Notwithstanding its extent, this belt was easily defended, about six miles of it being protected by water courses. At the north it was bordered by the deep waters of the Nansemond; at the west, by a considerable tributary flowing from the right side of this river; at the northeast, by the large stream called Jericho Creek. At the southeast the belt had been extended beyond this stream in order to command the isthmus which separates it from the Dismal Swamp. This isthmus was, moreover, intersected by the discharging channel which carries the waters of the swamp into the Nansemond. At the south a double line of works supplied the absence of natural obstacles. But Peck had not only to defend the space comprised between the river and the swamp. Below Suffolk the Nansemond pursues its winding course for a distance of four miles in a straight line, or, say, about eight miles, by following its sinuous course, as far as a promontory called Hill's Point, where the stream, receiving the waters of a river called the Western Branch, from the west, forms a vast estuary, which takes the name of Lower Nansemond.

This estuary was too broad for the Confederates to think of crossing it. But a bar of small depth off Hill's Point prevents large vessels from reaching the Upper Nansemond. Between Suffolk and Norfolk the river, narrow and tortuous, bordered by dense forests and fed by marshy streams, was very difficult to defend, and seemed to invite Longstreet to force a passage. He had the bridge equipage necessary for this operation, and his numerical superiority enabled him to undertake it.

Being convinced that Hill's demonstrations had succeeded in weakening Peck and deceiving him in regard to his intentions, he wished to take advantage of his strength in order to carry the works of Suffolk by surprise. It was a rich prey, well calculated to tempt the skilful lieutenant of Lee, who, invested for the first time with an independent command, was burning with desire to signalize himself by a brilliant exploit. Besides the strong garrison, which, driven into its intrenchments, would be reduced to capitulate, Suffolk contained a large number of heavy guns, all kinds of provisions and, among other things, more than 60 miles of rails for railroads. Once master of this point, Norfolk, with its arsenal, so indispensable to the fleet which blockaded James River, was at his mercy. On April 12 the troops were on the march along the roads which, coming from the west and south, converged at Suffolk, while Hood, following that of South Quay, captured the advance posts of the cavalry which Peck had sent out as a reconnoissance in the direction of the Blackwater.

Suffolk Invested.

On April 13, about noon, the Confederate columns moving simultaneously, appeared on both sides of the Nansemond. Anderson's and Pickett's Divisions marching up from the south struck at Fort Dix and the works on the Somerton road, driving our light batteries back into their works. Hood, following the Roanoke Railroad, deployed along the streams in front of the Union position, while French led his division along the left bank of the Nansemond directly toward Suffolk.

For once Lee's noted Confederate leaders met enemies worthy of them. Gen. Peck had intrusted the ever-reliable Getty and his division from the Ninth Corps with the care of the weakest part of his line, that extending from Suffolk along the Nansemond to Hill's Point. Peck, with his own division, occupied the rest of the line, with his cavalry out at South Mills to cover the road which passes around Dismal Swamp and goes on to Norfolk. Admiral Lee, in command at Newport News, sent to the assistance of Peck two of his vessels, which were light enough to get across the Nansemond Shallows. Thus the navy was represented by two vessels below the bar of Hill's Point and six above, with four more coming to their assistance.

These metamorphosed merchant vessels were all too light for serious work, as their frames could hardly stand the discharge of their own small artillery, but as they were commanded by two energetic young officers, Lieuts. Cushing and Lamson, they were able to give an exceedingly good account of themselves. This was likely to be the case wherever Lieut. Cushing was present. We shall hear of him in the future as the daring destroyer of the Albemarle and the brilliant leader of expeditions around Fort Fisher.

Gen. Peck had his works in a complete state and everything ready for the battle. The firm countenance which he presented to the onrushing columns soon convinced Longstreet that his idea of a surprise and of taking the works by a dash must be abandoned. His recent experience with Federal troops rushing hopelessly against earthworks was too fresh to make him entertain any illusions as to what Hood and French might do against those which he saw rise before him filled with well-disciplined infantry. He therefore at once modified his plans, assigning Anderson and Pickett to occupy the attention of the Federal soldiers along the right bank of the Nansemond, while Hood and French were to attempt to force a passage below Hill's Point.

This could only be possible after he had driven off the vessels, and then it would be entirely practicable, since Getty had but 7,000 men to guard eight miles of line. Therefore, his first work must be to get rid of these vessels. He immediately sent back to Petersburg for heavy guns, and began the secret construction of heavy works in which to mount them. At the same time he massed his field artillery in the woods, so as to come to the assistance of the heavy guns at the right time, and kept a portion of his troops south of Suffolk engaged in noisy demonstrations against that part of the Union line, in order to distract the attention of the defenders. It seemed as if the heavy guns would make short work of the light-built river craft, and Longstreet's men worked with such energy that he had his heavy batteries ready to open on April 14.

The Fight With the Vessels.

The little flotilla was engaged in patrolling the river when one of these batteries suddenly opened upon it. The smaller vessels ran the gauntlet successfully and reached the lower Nansemond. The Mount Washington, which was much larger, received several shots which wrecked her machinery, and she ran on the bar in front of Hill's Point. This was the time for the fieldpieces to come into action, which they did at a distance of 750 yards, and began to riddle her. Lieut. Lamson defended himself gallantly but hopelessly until Lieut. Cushing ran up to his assistance with the Commodore Barney. The two vessels fought the heavy guns and the cloud of skirmishers which rushed up to the river bank for four hours, and until the rising tide lifted the Mount Washington from her mud-bed and enabled her to float off free. Even then Cushing did not give up the fight until the Confederate guns ceased to reply.

This determined gallantry was highly creditable to the navy, but it was at the same time very costly, since the vessels had suffered severely from the close-range fire of the heavy artillery, and a sadly large proportion of the crews were more or less badly wounded. The Confederates felt much encouraged by their success, and started new batteries to close the river.

In the meanwhile Gen. Getty had been very busy. He constructed a road over difficult swamps and streams to connect with his works and enable him to rapidly reinforce upon the point attacked. Longstreet was feeling for his weak spot, and Getty was trying to have no weak spot. The Confederates had erected a strong battery at Norfleet's Point to cover their crossing of the river, but Getty brought up enough guns to speedily knock it out. This enabled the vessels to return to the help of the infantry, an opportunity of which Lamson promptly availed himself. Then the Confederates started in to strengthen the battery at Hill's Point, which had suffered severely from the fight with Cushing and Lamson. They raised the hight of the works, made embrasures and replaced the lighter guns with heavier pieces until they felt they had complete command of the pass. Lamson tried to land troops and destroy the works, but did not succeed, and Admiral Lee ordered him to withdraw. This the gallant Lamson was reluctant to do, and, of course, Gens. Peck and Getty were still more unwilling to lose his valuable assistance.

A Brilliant Dash.

The Confederates were active, and succeeded in badly damaging the Alert and the Coeur de Lion, killing their pilots. Getty erected two batteries opposite to control those of the enemy, and at 6 o'clock, April 19, they opened fire, supported by the flotilla. The gunboat Stepping-Stones, under the command of Lamson, had been disguised as a transport and loaded with troops which were hidden from the enemy's view by canvas. These troops were the 8th Conn., and 89th N. Y., commanded by Gen. Getty himself, who had become so earnest in the matter that he determined to personally lead his men.

The Stepping-Stones ran down toward the battery, and as she approached it the Union battery ceased firing, and Lamson suddenly running his vessel aground, the infantrymen leaped ashore, led by Gen. Getty, and rushed at the Confederate battery. The men in the battery were overpowered in an instant, when a second battery in the rear developed itself and opened fire. Without losing a moment Lamson turned the howitzers which he had brought with the troops upon this, and Getty led his men in a rush against it. In spite of the roughness of the ground they traversed the distance with great quickness, and in a few minutes had about 200 prisoners in their hands, together with five pieces of the noted Fauquier artillery. Their success had cost them only four killed and 10 wounded, and the daring dash seemed to paralyze the Confederates.

Longstreet, like some of our own Generals, seemed to have had all the aggressiveness taken out of him by this spirited movement, and at once began to make himself secure against our aggressiveness. It was possible, he thought, that we had been strongly reinforced, and that his isolated divisions were in danger of being overpowered. Peck ordered the captured battery on Hill's Point to be occupied for a day or two, and the enemy did not dare retake it.

A Regular Siege Begins.

Longstreet abandoned all thought of forcing his way across the Nansemond against Getty's thin line, and settled down to a regular siege. The light works which his advanced parties had thrown out in front of Peck's position were converted into regular siege lines, with strong profiles presented toward the Union side, and guns of still heavier caliber were sent down from Richmond to arm these. From the lines so established Longstreet began the construction of zigzag approaches of siege operations. Even the abandonment of the battery at Hill's Point, which Peck had ordered, did not tempt Longstreet to resume the offensive.

On the other hand, the Union soldiers became more confident and aggressive. Cushing landed with a squad of sailors, and pushed out three miles toward Longstreet's line, driving off some cavalry which attempted to interfere with him. Gen. Corcoran's Brigade made a sortie on the Edenton road, which drove the Confederate advance into their main works, and in the artillery duels the Federal guns invariably got the better of the Confederates.

The heavy guns which arrived from Richmond were placed in position and opened fire, and Hill came up from North Carolina with 10,000 fresh men to Longstreet's assistance, when it seemed as if the latter would strike a decisive blow. Just as he was preparing for this he heard from Richmond of stirring events on the Rappahannock, and he was ordered to immediately withdraw, to cover Richmond, or to join Lee, as circumstances might dictate. His orders were imperative, and called for immediate execution. On May 13, therefore, he abandoned his position and started for Richmond. At 3 o'clock in the morning Peck learned of his retreat, and immediately sent out detachments to press him and ascertain whether it was a real movement or a feint against some other part of his line. Quickly discovering that it was a real retreat, Getty started with 7,000 men to harass Longstreet's rear, but was met by Hill's Division, which took advantage of every favoring ground to retard the pursuit. Getty made several determined attempts to break thru Hill's line, but without success, and during the night Hill succeeded in placing all his men beyond the Blackwater, when the pursuit was given up.

The defense of Suffolk was one of the most skilful episodes of the war, and reflected the highest credit upon the Generals and troops, who had held at bay for more than a month Longstreet's overpowering forces. It was one of the most creditable performances of the Eastern army, and splendidly redeemed the reputation of the Fourth Corps, which had suffered from the imputations of McClellan. On the other hand, Longstreet and his subordinates suffered much loss of prestige. In great battles Longstreet had shown himself a tactician superior to Stonewall Jackson; that is, he handled his men more effectively in the actual crush of opposing hosts. Longstreet was ambitious of rivaling Jackson's reputation as a commander of independent operations. The failure at Suffolk was not wholly Longstreet's fault, as he was arrested at the time when he could claim he was about to succeed by imperative orders from Richmond to drop everything and hasten there.

Losses and Captures.

Gen. Peck reported that in the operations of the siege he had lost three officers and 38 men killed, 18 officers and 205 men wounded and two captured or missing, making a total of 266. The officers killed were Col. Benjamin Ringold, 103d N. Y.; Capt. Lewis H. Buzzell, 13th N. H., and Chaplain Francis E. Butler, 25th N. J. The heaviest loss sustained was by the 99th N. Y., which had 13 men killed and four officers and 54 men wounded. He had captured five pieces of the famous Fauquier artillery, about 400 prisoners, some rifles and camp equipage. He estimated that between 500 and 600 of the Confederates had been killed and wounded and about 500 deserted, making a total loss of at least 1,500. Longstreet had thrown up against him more than 10 miles of batteries, covered ways and rifle pits. Some of the parapets were from 12 to 15 feet in thickness, well revetted, while the covered ways were from eight to 10 feet thick. Longstreet had a line laid from the Black Water to communicate with the whole length of his line. Gens. Getty, Corcoran, Terry, Dodge and Harland and Cols. Dutton, Gibbs, Spear, Onderdonk, Gurney, Wardrupp and R. S. Foster, of the 13th Ind., were particularly complimented for their services. He says, "All the morale, prestige and glory belong to the patient and brave officers and men of the Federal army."

(To be continued.)

Cotton Burned Columbia.

Comrade H. O. Manning, Co. A, 4th Iowa, Keosaqua, Iowa, states that he was in Stone's Brigade, and adds: "When we came there was no way to cross the river. A battery threw some balls into the arsenal, and two comrades and myself crossed the river. Where I came out the enemy had constructed breastworks of cotton, and the bales were then on fire. I saw none of our men in town. I saw the Mayor go out to surrender the city. Col. Stone came in with him. About that time the wind rose to a gale, and the fire spread rapidly. When Gen. Sherman came he caused the boys to fight the fire, but some of them cut some o the hose and made it useless. Some of the boys got too much wine and brandy; there was plenty of it to be had. I would like to hear from Co. A. comrades."

Addresses Wanted.

Mrs. Mary Pendleton Glynn, Mountain Falls, Va., wants the address of any member of the 174th N. Y. who was present at Vicksburg and who knew Lieut. James G. Glynn.

Anton W. Mortensen, 65 East George St., St. Paul, Minn., wants the address of Julius Thorstraden, late of the 41st N. Y. He was wounded at Cedar Creek, and Comrade Mortensen, assisted by another comrade, took advantage of the dense fog covering the battlefield, and succeeded in carrying him back to an ambulance, thereby saving his life. In doing so Comrade Mortensen stumbled and injured his left leg permanently. He needs Thorstraden's evidence to support his pension claim.

John J. Atkins, 62 Milwaukee St., Janesville, Wis., would like to hear from comrades of the 5th N. Y. and of the 2d Duryeas.

The 91st Pa.

Editor National Tribune: Kindly give a history of the 91st Pa. from its date of organization until muster-out.—A. R. Hill, Apollo, Pa.

The 91st Pa. was organized at Philadelphia from September to December, 1861, and finally mustered out July 10, 1865. It was commanded by Col. Edgar M. Gregory, brevetted Brigadier-General Sept. 31, 1864. It belonged to Ayres's Division, Fifth Corps, and lost 116 killed and 84 from disease, etc.—Editor National Tribune.

Cedar Creek and Resaca.

Editor National Tribune: Will you kindly give the number of men killed, wounded and missing in the battles of Cedar Creek and Resaca?—Myron Lewis, Soldiers' Home, Marshalltown, Iowa.

There were 588 killed, 3,516 wounded and 1,891 missing at Cedar Creek, with probably an equal Confederate loss. At Resaca there were 600 killed and 2,147 wounded, with probably the same number on the Confederate side.—Editor National Tribune.

Loves the Old Vets.

K. M. Barbour, New Castle, Colo., says that he is not a veteran, being only 10 years old when the war closed, but he remembers it well. He likes The National Tribune, and loves to read of the brave deeds of the veterans. He loves every one of them.

Silvering Mirrors.

Editor National Tribune: Can you thru The National Tribune inform me how and what process is required for silvering or resilvering mirrors, and oblige me—T. J. McGrath, 626 Peebles St., Wilkinsburg, Pa.

Silvering mirrors is a very delicate operation, and requires nicety and patience at every stage. The following is a description of the method that was usually employed for many years and is still in vogue, but now many of the cheaper mirrors are made by precipitating silver from a nitrate solution.

A sheet of pure tin foil, slightly larger than the glass plate to be silvered, is spread evenly on a perfectly plain stone table having a raised edge, and is well cleaned from all dust and impurity. The foil must be free from the slightest flaw or crack. The tin is next covered uniformly to a depth of one-eighth of an inch with mercury, preference being given by some to that containing a small proportion of tin from a previous operation. The glass plate, freed from all dust and grease and repolished if necessary, is then carefully slid over the mercury. This part of the work requires skill and experience to exclude all air bubbles, and even the best workmen are not successful every time. If there is a single bubble or scratch the operation must be repeated and the tin foil is lost; not a small expense for large sizes. When this step has been satisfactorily accomplished the remainder is easy. The glass plate is loaded with heavy weights to press out the excess of mercury, which is collected and used again. After 24 hours the mirror is lifted from the table and placed on edge against a wall, where it is left to drain well.—Editor National Tribune.

One of the Loyal Enlisted Men.

Peter Daly, who died in St. Paul, Minn., Oct. 14, 1907, was one of those splendidly loyal soldiers of the Regular Army who refused to be transferred to the Southern Confederacy. He was born in Ireland, but came to this country at an early age and enlisted in the 1st U. S. His company was stationed at Fort Lancaster, Texas, when Twiggs turned over the Regular Army to the State of Texas. When the troops tried to get back to the United States they were capured, after marching 300 miles, by Maj. Van Dorn. Comrade Daly was thus one of the first prisoners of the war. He and his comrades refused all seductions and braved all threats to be put in the Confederate army. He was finally released on parole, and he served in the army until 1870, taking up his residence in St. Paul after he was discharged from Fort Snelling. In 1879 he removed to Kittson County, where he established the first post office in the County, calling it Halleck, after one of his old officers. He was appointed the first Register of Deeds, and took an active part in politics, being one of the strong supporters from the first of Senator Knute Nelson.

Brig.-Gen. Carleton.

Editor National Tribune: Will you give a short history of J. H. Carleton, who superseded Gen. Canby Sept. 18, 1862, in command of the Department of New Mexico? He and my father were cousins and were together in the Aroostook war, so called, as Corporals. After that trouble James H. Carleton went into the Regular service, and was the one that found the remains of those who were slaughtered in the Meadow Mountain massacre of 1857. In 1859 Gen. Carleton raised a cairn of stones over the bleaching skeletons of the emigrants and put up the inscription, "Here lie the bones of 120 men, women and children, murdered on the 10th day of September, 1857."—John W. Carleton, 3d Me. Battery, Winterport, Me.

James H. Carleton was born in Maine, and commissioned a Second Lieutenant of the 1st U. S. Dragoons Oct. 18, 1839. At the beginning of the war he became Colonel of the 1st Cal., and was promoted to Brigadier-General April 28, 1862. He was mustered out of the volunteer service April 30, 1866, and became Lieutenant-Colonel of the 4th U. S. Cav. He was brevetted repeatedly for gallantry at Buena Vista, for service in New Mexico, and for gallantry and meritorious service during the war, receiving finally that of Major-General of Volunteers. He died Jan. 7, 1873.—Editor National Tribune.